

2012 IDAHO PRIMARY and GENERAL ELECTION CALENDAR

This edition of the 2012 Election Calendar may be updated due to changes made during the 2012 session of the Idaho Legislature. Last updated May 2011.

November 17, 2011	Last day for a political party qualified to participate in the Primary Election (May 15) to notify the Secretary of State in writing of who may participate in their Primary Election.	Sec. 34-904A, Idaho Code
December 2011	County Clerk publishes the election calendar for 2012.	Sec. 34-1405, Idaho Code
January 15	Last day for County Commissioners to establish election precincts. (May be waived due to Redistricting.)	Sec. 34-301, Idaho Code
January 27	Last day to supply wording and resolution to the County Clerk for a bond or levy election by a school district or a recall election by any political subdivision which is ordered for the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-106, Idaho Code
January 27	Last day for the County Clerk to submit a request to the Secretary of State for a modification of election procedures for joint districts for the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-1413, Idaho Code
February 2	Last day for the Secretary of State to approve requested modification of election procedures for joint districts for the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-1413, Idaho Code
February 10	County Clerk to mail absentee ballots for the March 13 election to voters who requested absentee ballots.	Secretary of State Directive
February 10	Last day for County Commissioners to designate polling places prior to the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-302, Idaho Code
February 10	County Clerk to appoint election personnel for the March 13 election.	
February 17	Last day to pre-register to vote with the County Clerk until 5:00 p.m. for the March 13 election. Registration closes in those districts holding a March 13 election. Election Day Registration is available.	Sec. 34-408, Idaho Code
February 18-28	County Clerk to mail ballots for the March 13 election to voters in designated Mail Ballot Precincts.	Sec. 34-308, Idaho Code
February 24-March 2	County Clerk publishes the notice of candidate filing deadline for the May 15 election during this week in the official newspaper(s) of the political subdivision.	Sec. 34-1405, Idaho Code

February 27	First day for filing declarations of candidacy of all candidates, including independents, with the Secretary of State or County Clerk for the Primary (May 15) and General (November 6) Elections.	Sec. 34-704, Idaho Code Sec. 34-708, Idaho Code
February 27	First day for filing declarations of candidacy for candidates for the May 15 election with the clerk of the political subdivision.	Sec. 34-1404, Idaho Code
March 1	First notice of election is published for the March 13 election by the County Clerk in the official newspaper(s) of the county.	Sec. 34-602, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1406, Idaho Code
March 1	Last day for the County Clerk to receive written requests for the purpose of authorizing persons to act as challengers at the polling place for the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-304, Idaho Code
March 1	Last day for the Secretary of State to designate candidates for the Presidential Primary Election (May 15) to the County Clerks.	Sec. 34-732, Idaho Code
March 7	Last day for an application for a mail-in absentee ballot to be received by the County Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. for the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-1002, Idaho Code
March 8	Second notice of election for the March 13 election is published by the County Clerk in the official newspaper(s) of the county. Facsimile sample ballot published at this time. Published in at least two newspapers within the county, if possible.	Sec. 34-602, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1406, Idaho Code Sec. 34-2425, Idaho Code Secretary of State Directive
March 9	Last day for in-person absentee voting until 5:00 p.m. for the March 13 election at the absent elector's polling place.	Sec. 34-1002, Idaho Code
March 9	Last day for an elector currently registered by party to change party affiliation or become "Unaffiliated" by filing a signed form with the County Clerk for the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-411A, Idaho Code
March 9	Last day for filing declarations of candidacy until 5:00 p.m. for candidates, including independents, with the Secretary of State or County Clerk for the Primary (May 15) and General (November 6) Elections.	Sec. 34-704, Idaho Code Sec. 34-708, Idaho Code
March 9	Last day for filing declarations of candidacy until 5:00 p.m. for candidates for the May 15 election with the clerk of the political subdivision. This filing is for political subdivision candidates	Sec. 34-1404, Idaho Code

March 12	Last day for the Secretary of State to certify candidates to Legislative District and State Central Committees for the Primary (May 15) and General (November 6) Elections.	Sec. 34-706, Idaho Code
March 12	Last day for the County Clerk to certify candidates to the County Central Committees for the Primary (May 15) and General (November 6) Elections.	Sec. 34-706, Idaho Code
March 13	Last day to return absentee ballots to the County Clerk's Elections Office by 8:00 p.m. for the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-1005, Idaho Code
March 13	Election 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (*) At Clerk's option, polling places may be opened at 7:00 a.m.	Sec. 34-106, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1101, Idaho Code
March 13	County Clerk's office to remain open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., if the county is holding an election.	Sec. 34-211, Idaho Code
March 14	Registration reopens.	Sec. 34-408, Idaho Code
March 16	Last day for the clerk of the political subdivision to certify the nominees and any special questions placed by action of the governing board of the political subdivision for the May 15 election.	Sec. 34-1404, Idaho Code
March 16	Last day for precinct committeemen to supply a list for precinct election personnel for the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-303, Idaho Code
March 16	Last day for undesignated presidential candidates to file a declaration of candidacy with the Secretary of State for the Presidential Primary (May 15).	Sec. 34-732, Idaho Code
March 19	Last day for the Secretary of State to certify candidates to the County Clerks for the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-705, Idaho Code
March 23	Last day for the Board of County Commissioners to meet and canvass the vote for the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code
March 23	Last day for the County Clerk to certify election results to the political subdivisions for the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code
March 26	County Clerk to appoint election personnel for the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-303, Idaho Code

March 30	Last day for political parties to supply the name of its county chairman or alternate to the County Clerk in order to have witnesses accompany the County Clerk or Deputy Clerk in the delivery of absentee ballots for the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-1003, Idaho Code
March 30	Last day a candidate may withdraw before the Primary Election (May 15). This includes both partisan candidates and candidates for political subdivisions.	Sec. 34-717, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1405A, Idaho Code
March 30	Last day for a political subdivision to supply wording and resolution to the County Clerk for a bond, levy, initiative, referendum, recall or any other ballot question ordered for the May 15 election.	Sec. 34-106, Idaho Code
March 30	Last day for the County Clerk to mail absentee ballots for the Primary Election (May 15) to voters who requested absentee ballots prior to the 45th day before the election.	Sec. 34-1003, Idaho Code Secretary of State Directive
March 30	Last day declaration of intent to be filed by a write-in candidate with the clerk of the district for the May 15 election. This filing is for political subdivision candidates.	Sec. 34-1407, Idaho Code
March 30	Last day for the County Clerk to submit a request to the Secretary of State for a modification of election procedures for joint districts for the May 15 election.	Sec. 34-1413, Idaho Code
April 1	Last day for County Commissioners to designate mail ballot precincts for all elections.	Sec. 34-308, Idaho Code
April 5	Last day for the Secretary of State to approve requested modification of election procedures for joint districts for the May 15 election.	Sec. 34-1413, Idaho Code
April 5	Last day for the Secretary of State to provide form of sample Primary Election (May 15) ballot.	Sec. 34-712, Idaho Code
April 13	Last day for County Commissioners to designate polling places prior to the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-302, Idaho Code
April 13	Last day for the Secretary of State to remove presidential candidates because of death, incapacity or withdrawal from the Presidential Primary (May 15).	Sec. 34-733, Idaho Code
April 17	Last day declaration of intent to be filed by a write-in candidate for the Primary Election (May 15) with the Secretary of State or County Clerk. This filing date is for federal, state, legislative, or county candidates.	Sec. 34-702A, Idaho Code

April 20	Last day to pre-register to vote with the County Clerk until 5:00 p.m. for the Primary Election (May 15). Election Day Registration is available.	Sec. 34-408, Idaho Code
April 21 – May 1	County Clerk to mail ballots for the May 15 election to voters in designated Mail Ballot Precincts.	Sec. 34-308, Idaho Code
May 1	Last day to submit initiative petition signatures to the County Clerk by the close of business. This date is dependent upon when the 18 month circulation period started.	Sec. 34-1802, Idaho Code
May 3	First notice of the Primary Election (May 15) is published by the County Clerk in the official newspaper(s) of the county. Published in at least two newspapers within the county, if possible.	Sec. 34-602, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1406, Idaho Code
May 3	Last day for County Clerk to receive written requests for the purpose of authorizing persons to act as watchers and challengers at the polling place for the May 15 election.	Sec. 34-304, Idaho Code
May 4	Last day for candidates for President or a designated representative to file, with the Secretary of State, a list of names and addresses of the persons proposed to be delegates to the national convention of the party of that candidate.	Sec. 34-735, Idaho Code
May 9	Last day for an application for a mail-in absentee ballot to be received by the County Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. for the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-1002, Idaho Code
May 10	Second notice of Primary Election (May 15) is published by the County Clerk in the official newspaper(s) of the county. Facsimile sample ballot published at this time. Published in at least two newspapers within the county, if possible.	Sec. 34-602, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1406, Idaho Code Sec. 34-2425, Idaho Code Secretary of State Directive
May 11	Last day for the County Clerk to examine election register and note challenges from the March 13 election.	Sec. 34-432, Idaho Code
May 11	Last day for in-person absentee voting until 5:00 p.m. for the Primary Election (May 15) at the absent elector's polling place.	Sec. 34-1002, Idaho Code
May 15	Last day to return absentee ballots to the County Clerk's Elections Office by 8:00 p.m. for the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-1005, Idaho Code

May 15	Primary Election -- 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (*) At Clerk's option, polling places may be opened at 7:00 a.m.	Sec. 34-102, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1101, Idaho Code
May 15	County Clerk's office to remain open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Sec. 34-211, Idaho Code
May 16	Registration reopens.	Sec. 34-408, Idaho Code
May 22	Last day for the Board of County Canvassers to meet and canvass the vote for the Primary Election (May 15). (The last day for the Board of County Commissioners to canvass the election results for the political subdivisions for the May 15 election is May 25. However, it is recommended that both canvass' be done at the same time.)	Sec. 34-1205, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code
May 23	County Clerk issues certificates of nomination or election to candidates and certifies to the Secretary of State for the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-1208, Idaho Code
May 25	Last day for the County Clerk to certify election results to the political subdivisions for the May 15 election.	Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code
May 25	Last day for county central committee to meet and elect officers.	Sec. 34-502, Idaho Code
May 26 (Saturday)	Last day for legislative district central committees to meet and elect officers.	Sec. 34-503, Idaho Code
May 28	Clerk of the political subdivision issues certificates of election for the May 15 election.	Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code
May 30	Last day for State Board of Canvassers to meet to canvass the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-1211, Idaho Code
May 31	Secretary of State issues certificates of nomination or election for the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-1214, Idaho Code
June 1	Last day for county write-in candidates to pay filing fee for placement on the General Election (November 6) ballot. This date is dependent upon the day of the county canvass--10 days after canvass.	Sec. 34-702, Idaho Code
June 8	Last day for federal, state and legislative write-in candidates to pay filing fee for placement on the General Election (November 6) ballot. This date is dependent upon the day of the state canvass--10 days after canvass.	Sec. 34-702, Idaho Code

June 29	Last day for County Clerk to verify initiative petition signatures. This is dependent upon the last day to submit initiative petition signatures to the County Clerk – 60 calendar days from the submission of signatures.	Sec. 34-1802, Idaho Code
July 13	Last day to supply wording and resolution to the County Clerk for a bond or levy election by a school district or a recall election by any political subdivision which is ordered for the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-106, Idaho Code
July 13	Last day for the County Clerk to examine election register and note challenges from the Primary Election (May 15).	Sec. 34-432, Idaho Code
July 13	Last day for the County Clerk to submit a request to the Secretary of State for a modification of election procedures for joint districts for the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-1413, Idaho Code
July 19	Last day for the Secretary of State to approve requested modification of election procedures for joint districts for the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-1413, Idaho Code
July 25 – August 1	County Clerk publishes the notice of candidate filing for the Single Countywide Highway District candidates for the November 6 election during this week in the official newspaper(s) of the political subdivision.	Sec. 34-1405, Idaho Code
July 27	Last day for County Commissioners to designate polling places prior to the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-302, Idaho Code
July 27	County Clerk to appoint election personnel for the August 28 election.	
July 27	County Clerk to mail absentee ballots for the August 28 election to voters who requested absentee ballots.	Secretary of State Directive
August 3	Last day to pre-register to vote with the County Clerk until 5:00 p.m. for the August 28 election. Registration closes in those districts holding an August 28 election. Election Day Registration is available.	Sec. 34-408, Idaho Code
August 4-14	County Clerk to mail ballots for the August 28 election to voters in designated Mail Ballot Precincts.	Sec. 34-308, Idaho Code
August 8	Last day for Magistrates up for retention to file declarations of candidacy with the County Clerk for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 1-2220, Idaho Code

August 8	Last day for Highway District Commissioners in a single countywide district to file declarations of candidacy with the County Clerk for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-625, Idaho Code Sec. 34-625A, Idaho Code
August 16	First notice of election is published for the August 28 election by the County Clerk in the official newspaper(s) of the county.	Sec. 34-602, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1406, Idaho Code
August 16	Last day for the County Clerk to receive written requests for the purpose of authorizing persons to act as challengers at the polling place for the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-304, Idaho Code
August 17 – 24	County Clerk publishes the notice of candidate filing deadline for political subdivision candidates for the November 6 election during this week in the official newspaper(s) of the political subdivision.	Sec. 34-1405, Idaho Code
August 22	Last day for an application for a mail-in absentee ballot to be received by the County Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. for the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-1002, Idaho Code
August 23	Second notice of election for the August 28 election is published by the County Clerk in the official newspaper(s) of the county. Facsimile sample ballot published at this time. Published in at least two newspapers within the county, if possible.	Sec. 34-602, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1406, Idaho Code Sec. 34-2425, Idaho Code Secretary of State Directive
August 24	Last day for in-person absentee voting until 5:00 p.m. for the August 28 election at the absent elector's polling place.	Sec. 34-1002, Idaho Code
August 24	Last day for independent candidates for President and Vice-President to file nomination petitions with the Secretary of State for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-708A, Idaho Code
August 28	Last day to return absentee ballots to the County Clerk's Elections Office by 8:00 p.m. for the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-1005, Idaho Code
August 28	Election 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (*) At Clerk's option, polling places may be opened at 7:00 a.m.	Sec. 34-106, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1101, Idaho Code
August 28	County Clerk's office to remain open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., if the county is holding an election.	Sec. 34-211, Idaho Code
August 29	Registration Reopens.	Sec. 34-408, Idaho Code

August 30	Last day for new political party formation petitions to be filed with the Secretary of State.	Sec. 34-501, Idaho Code
August 31	Last day for filing declarations of candidacy until 5:00 p.m. for candidates for the November 6 election with the clerk of the political subdivision. This filing is for political subdivision candidates.	Sec. 34-1404, Idaho Code
September 1	Last day for state party chairman to certify candidates for President, Vice-President and Presidential Electors for the General Election (November 6). <i>(Five day extension may be granted by the Secretary of State.)</i>	Sec. 34-711, Idaho Code
September 1	Last day for independent candidates for President to certify Presidential Electors.	Sec. 34-711A, Idaho Code
September 7	Last day for Secretary of State to forward General Election (November 6) sample ballots to the County Clerks.	Sec. 34-909, Idaho Code
September 7	Last day for the Secretary of State to certify constitutional amendments to the County Clerks for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-603, Idaho Code
September 7	Last day for the clerk of the political subdivision to certify the nominees and any special questions placed by action of the governing board of the political subdivision for the November 6 election.	Sec. 34-1404, Idaho Code
September 7	Last day a partisan candidate may withdraw before the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-717, Idaho Code
September 7	Last day for the Board of County Commissioners to meet and canvass the vote for the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code
September 7	Last day for the County Clerk to certify election results to the political subdivisions for the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code
September 17	Last day for County Clerk to print absentee ballots for the General Election (November 6).	Secretary of State Directive
September 21	Last day a candidate of a political subdivision may withdraw before the November 6 election.	Sec. 34-1405A, Idaho Code
September 21	Last day for political parties to supply the name of its county chairman or alternate to the County Clerk in order to have witnesses accompany the County Clerk or Deputy Clerk in the delivery of absentee ballots for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-1003, Idaho Code

September 21	Last day for a political subdivision to supply wording and resolution to the County Clerk for a bond, levy, initiative, referendum, recall or any other ballot question ordered for the November 6 election.	Sec. 34-106, Idaho Code
September 21	Last day for the County Clerk to mail absentee ballots for the General Election (November 6) to voters who requested absentee ballots prior to the 45th day before the election.	Sec. 34-1003, Idaho Code Secretary of State Directive
September 21	Last day declaration of intent to be filed by a write-in candidate with the clerk of the political subdivision for the November 6 election. This filing is for political subdivision candidates.	Sec. 34-1407, Idaho Code
September 21	Last day for the County Clerk to submit a request to the Secretary of State for a modification of election procedures for joint districts for the November 6 election.	Sec. 34-1413, Idaho Code
September 27	Last day for the Secretary of State to approve requested modification of election procedures for joint districts for the November 6 election.	Sec. 34-1413, Idaho Code
October 5	Last day for County Commissioners to designate polling places prior to the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-302, Idaho Code
October 5	County Clerk to appoint election personnel for the General Election (November 6).	
October 9	Last day declaration of intent to be filed by write-in candidates for the General Election (November 6) with the Secretary of State or County Clerk. This filing is for federal, state, legislative, or county candidates.	Sec. 34-702A, Idaho Code
October 12	Last day to pre-register to vote with the County Clerk until 5:00 p.m. for the General Election (November 6). Election Day Registration is available.	Sec. 34-408, Idaho Code
October 13-23	County Clerk to mail ballots for the November 6 election to voters in designated Mail Ballot Precincts.	Sec. 34-308, Idaho Code
October 25	First notice of General Election (November 6) is published by the County Clerk in the official newspaper(s) of the county. Published in at least two newspapers within the county, if possible.	Sec. 34-602, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1406, Idaho Code

October 25	Last day for the County Clerk to receive written requests for the purpose of authorizing persons to act as watchers and challengers at the polling place for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-304, Idaho Code
October 26	Last day for the Secretary of State to certify vacancy candidates for the General Election (November 6), who have been appointed by the central committees, to the County Clerks.	Sec. 34-909, Idaho Code
October 26	Last day for the County Clerk to examine election register and note challenges from the August 28 election.	Sec. 34-432, Idaho Code
October 31	Last day for an application for a mail-in absentee ballot to be received by the County Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-1002, Idaho Code
November 1	Second notice of General Election (November 6) is published by the County Clerk in the official newspaper(s) of the county. Facsimile sample ballot published at this time. Published in at least two newspapers within the county, if possible.	Sec. 34-602, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1406, Idaho Code Sec. 34-2425, Idaho Code Secretary of State Directive
November 2	Last day for in-person absentee voting until 5:00 p.m. for the General Election (November 6) at the absent elector's polling place.	Sec. 34-1002, Idaho Code
November 6	Last day to return absentee ballots to the County Clerk's Elections Office by 8:00 p.m. for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-1005, Idaho Code
November 6	General Election -- 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (*) At Clerk's option, polling places may be opened at 7:00 a.m.	Sec. 34-101, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1101, Idaho Code
November 6	County Clerk's office to remain open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Sec. 34-211, Idaho Code
November 7	Registration reopens.	Sec. 34-408, Idaho Code
November 16	Last day for the Board of County Canvassers to meet and canvass the vote for the General Election (November 6). (This includes the canvass of election results for the political subdivisions for the November 6 election.)	Sec. 34-1205, Idaho Code Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code
November 16	Last day for the County Clerk to certify election results to the political subdivisions for the November 6 election.	Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code

November 19	County Clerk issues certificates of election for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-1209, Idaho Code
November 19	Clerk of the political subdivision issues certificates of election for the November 6 election.	Sec. 34-1410, Idaho Code
November 21	Last day for State Board of Canvassers to meet to canvass the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-1211, Idaho Code
November 22	Secretary of State issues certificates of election for the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-1215, Idaho Code
December 17	Presidential Electors meet and cast votes.	3 United States Code 7 Sec. 34-1503, Idaho Code
January 4, 2013	Last day for the County Clerk to examine election register and note challenges from the General Election (November 6).	Sec. 34-432, Idaho Code
January 18, 2013	Last day for County Clerk to submit report to the Secretary of State on absentee voters for the General Election (November 6) as required by federal law.	Sec. 34-1002, Idaho Code
March 6, 2013	Last day for County Clerk to cancel registration of those electors who have not voted in four (4) years.	Sec. 34-435, Idaho Code